Heidelberg are reported to have identified four mosquito proteins that affect the ability of malaria parasite (plasmodium) to survive and develop in the malaria carrier mosquito (Anopheles).

Two of the mosquito proteins *i.e.* TEP1 and LRIM1 have been shown to be defendors of the mosquito killing of the parasite in insect's gut and by enhancing these natural defenders, parasite mosquito cycle can be blocked.

In addition to defender proteins, two other proteins CTL4 and CTLMA2 have been discovered, which have an opposite effect; actually protecting the parasite as it develops in the mosquito gut. If these proteins were eliminated, the parasite died.

This breakthrough in research could be used to block the transmission of malaria parasite from mosquito to man.

Yoga Therapy Certificates

1098. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether trainees awarded with yoga therapy certificates by recognized institutes in India could be treated as registered medical practitioners or appropriately trained persons, since yoga had already been recognized as traditional system of medicines;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether yoga therapists from recognized yoga institutes can practise acupuncture after undergoing certificate course in acupuncture without using the word Doctor;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the details with addresses of recognized institutes in India offering certificate courses in acupuncture;

(f) whether Dr. Lohia's Indian Academy of Acupunture Science, in Maharashtra, is recognized to train for certificate courses in acupuncture; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) There is no law that provides for registration of Yoga therapy certificate holders as medical practitioners.

(c) and (d) All registered practitioners of Indian Systems of Medicine and appropriately trained personnel are permitted to practice acupuncture.

(e) and (g) Since the Central Government have not recognized acupuncture as an independent System of Medicine, the question of legally recognized institutes offering courses in acupuncture does not arise.

Practising Medicine without qualification

1099. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether persons who do not have prescribed qualifications and experience are practicing medicine and performing surgery illegally;

(b) whether some instances have come to the notice of Government recently; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon;

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) The Government do not have specific information in this regard. However, registration with the concerned Councils can be secured only by such practitioners who possess the requisite qualifications. According to provisions in the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970, and Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973, no unregistered medical practitioner can practice medicine. Any person who acts in contravention of the provisions can be punished with imprisonment and fine under the respective Acts.

Cure of AIDS by Siddha Medicine

1100. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that research papers have been submitted to his Ministry about the possible cure for the dreaded disease AIDS, by the Siddha medicine;